

Message Text

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65

ORIGIN AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-05 PC-05 USIE-00 IO-10

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DRAFTED BY AFR/CWR/SDU:HMILLER:CML

APPROVED BY AFR/CWR:IROSENTHAL

DAA/AFR:DSBROWN (DRAFT)

SER/COM/TR:IJACKSON (SUBS)

FFP/FDD:PRUSSELL (SUBS)

AFR/CWR:HAMES (DRAFT)

AF/W:DREHFUSS (SUBS)

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O P 042115Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: NIGER FOOD REQUIREMENTS

REFS: (A) NIAMEY 3049 (B) ABIDJAN 6406 (C) COTONOU 1115

(D) NIAMEY 3042 (E) NIAMEY 3032 (F) BAMAKO 2844 (G) BAMAKO

2840 (H) COTONOU 1091 (I) STATE 179620 (J) NIAMEY 2721

1. BASED ON (A) GON PRESIDENTIAL REQUEST AND EMBASSY/RDO/
NIAMEY ASSESSMENT THAT AN URGENT NEED EXISTS FOR GRAINS IN
THE NORTHEAST PORTION OF NIAMEY DEPARTMENT, AND (B) ABIDJAN
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ADVICE THAT SHIPMENT FROM ABIDJAN WOULD NECESSITATE TIME

DURATION OF UP TO FOUR WEEKS, AID/W HAS DECIDED THAT MOST EXPEDITIOUS DIVERSION OF GRAIN STOCKS TO MEET URGENT NIGER REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE FROM COTONOU.

2. AID/W THEREFORE DIRECTS THAT 1,500 MT OUT OF THE TOTAL 3,696 MT USG SORGHUM SHIPMENTS TO COTONOU PRESENTLY DESTINED FOR MALI BE REASSIGNED TO NIGER TO ASSIST MEET CURRENT SHORTAGES IN GON FREE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. AID/W FURTHER INTENDS AND DIRECTS THAT THE PORTION OF USG STOCKS FOR MALI (I.E., 2,196 MT) WILL HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY EVACUATED FROM COTONOU PRIOR REPEAT PRIOR TO RELEASE OF THE 1,500 MT FOR USE BY NIGER.

3 IN ACCEDING TO GON URGENT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FOOD STOCKS WE ASSUME THAT GON WILL (A) USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH OCDN TO HELP ENSURE A STEADY EVACUATION RATE OF MALI STOCKS FROM COTONOU AND (B) USE ITS OWN TRUCKS PER PARA 4 REF (E) TO HELP RELIEVE TRANSPORT STRAIN AT PARAKOU. THIS ACTION WILL HAVE TRIPLE EFFECT OF (1) EASING PARAKOU BOTTLENECK (2) ASSURING EXPEDITIOUS ARRIVAL OF MUCH NEEDED RELIEF COMMODITIES SUCH AS CANADIAN SEMOLINA AND WHEAT FLOUR AND (3) FREE ADDITIONAL TRUCK AVAILABILITIES FOR GAO SHIPMENTS.

4. PRIOR TO ADDRESSING ISSUE OF ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE RAISED PER PARA 12.B., REF (A), AID/W AGAIN REQUESTS NIAMEY IMMEDIATELY FORWARD DATA PROMISED PARA 1.A, REF (J) WHICH PRESUMABLY FORMED BASIS RDO/DONOR COMMUNITY RECOMMENDATIONS.

5.FOR ABIDJAN: AID/W REQUESTS REDSO TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACTUAL MODIFICATIONS TO PERMIT RECONSIGNMENT OF 1,500 MT USG COTONOU STOCKS TO NIGER PER PARA 2 ABOVE. ALSO REQUEST ABIDJAN AMEND EXISTING COTONOU/GAO CONTRACTS TO CONFORM WITH NEW RATE STRUCTURE OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED BY OCDN PER PARA 2 REF (C), TO HELP ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF TRUCKS FOR GAO DELIVERY. ABIDJAN FURTHER ADVISE TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE IN NIGER PA/PR NO. 683-5713 TO COVER COTONOU-NIAMEY SHIPMENT AS WELL AS POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT SHIPMENTS.

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6. FOR BAMAKO: (A) MISSION MAY INFORM GOM THAT 1,500 MT OF USG STOCKS IN COTONOU, ORIGINALLY DESTINED FOR GAO, ARE BEING REDIRECTED TO MEET URGENT NEED IN NIGER. IN VIEW OF EARLY NAVIGATION START WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR PER PARA 2, BAMAKO 2743, IT IS ASSUMED THAT VI REGION FOOD REQUIREMENTS WILL BE ADEQUATELY MET VIA RIVER BARGE TRAFFIC TOGETHER WITH 2,196 MT SORGHUM EN ROUTE FROM COTONOU TO GAO. (B) ISSUE OF REPLACING STOCKS BEING

REASSIGNED TO NIGER AS WELL AS OVERALL MALI SITUATION WILL
BE SUBJECT SEPTEL- GON DEMARCH TO MALI AT THIS POINT NOT
REQUIRED AS GRAINS STILL IN HANDS OF USG WHICH RETAINS
DISCRETIONARY PRIVILEGE OVER ULTIMATE DESTINATION UP TO
TIME THAT RECIPIENT COUNTRY TAKES POSSESSION AT POINT OF
ENTRY. INGERSOLL

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